

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claim 1. Claims 2-36 were canceled in an earlier Preliminary Amendment. Please enter new claims 37-61 as follows:

Claims 1-36: (Cancelled)

37. (New) A protector device for protection of a point of the human body from a belt worn on the body, said protector device comprising:

a basic body having a body facing side and an upper side, said body facing side defining a central protected area that does not touch the body of the wearer;

said upper side of said basic body defining a belt bearing surface over which the belt worn by the wearer passes;

a cover at least partially detachably mountable on said basic body such that a space is defined between said basic body and said cover through which the belt passes; and

wherein said protector device presents an outward facing side having a curved even surface void of protrusions and outwardly facing edges.

38. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said curved even surface of said outwardly facing side extends generally over the entire length of said protector device.

39. (New) The protector as in claim 37, further comprising a fastening device between said cover and said basic body, said fastening device being covered by said cover so as not to present protrusions or edges to said outward facing side of said protector.

40. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein no component extends beyond an upper side of said cover.

41. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover comprises an upper side defining said outward facing side of said protector device, said upper side of said cover having a curvature conforming to the curvature of the belt as worn on the wearer.

42. (New) The protector as in claim 41, wherein said cover upper side is at least partially convex.

43. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said basic body further comprises belt guidance members on said upper side thereof, said belt guidance members covered by said cover.

44. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover is longitudinally movable relative to said basic body.

45. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover is mounted to be swiveled relative to said basic body.

46. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover comprises a guide for the belt on an under side of said cover.

47. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said space between said cover and said basic body is such that the belt may shift longitudinally relative to said basic body.

48. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said space between said cover and said basic body is such that the belt is contacted by said basic body and said cover whereby a frictional resistance is exerted against said belt.

49. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said space between said cover and said basic body is less than about 2mm.

50. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said space between said cover and said basic body is less than about 1.3mm.

51. (New) The protector as in claim 37, further comprising a tappet or ridge member between said cover and said basic body to define said space between said cover and said basic body.

52. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said basic body comprises supporting surfaces on said body facing side thereof configured to be placed against the wearer, said central protected area defined between said supporting surfaces.

53. (New) The protector as in claim 52, further comprising a rubber-like coating on said supporting surfaces, said coating selected to attenuate effects of said supporting surfaces against the wearer and increase friction between the basic body and the wearer.

54. (New) The protector as in claim 52, wherein said basic body comprises a bridge extending between said supporting surfaces, said bridge defining said central protected area.

55. (New) The protector as in claim 54, wherein said basic body further comprises a change-over transition between said bridge and said supporting surfaces having a rounded off contour with a radius of at least about 0.5mm.

56. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein at least one of said basic body and said cover comprise a friction increasing coating on surfaces thereof contacting the belt to prevent free shifting of said protector relative to the belt.

57. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover is formed as an integral piece with said basic body.

58. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover comprises a snap fit connection with said basic body.

59. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover comprises longitudinal sides that extend around said basic body.

60. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein said cover is formed of a plurality of parts, at least one of said parts being non-movably fixed to said basic body, and at least one other of said parts being movable relative to said basic body to introduce the belt between said cover and said basic body.

61. (New) The protector as in claim 37, wherein any areas of said basic body not covered by said cover member have rounded off sides and edges.